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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ABSTRACTS TO THE COUNCIL ON STANDARDIZATION

Your Committee on Abstracts held a meeting in Cleveland on June 8, at which time the work of the Committee was outlined and discussed. Professor Bartow, President of the Association, and Mr. Pirnie, Secretary of the Council, were present and offered valuable suggestions. The chairman was instructed by the Committee to submit our plans to your Council for approval.

It is proposed to include in the list of publications for abstracts, all of the American periodicals likely to contain information of value to the water works men, proceedings of kindred societies, United States Government, state and municipal reports, bulletins and papers, public utilities reports, and university or college bulletins.

It is not the intention to abstract the chemical and bacteriological journals which are already being abstracted by the American Chemical Society and the abstracts published in *Chemical Abstracts*, under the division of "Water, Sewage and Sanitation." It is, however, proposed to communicate with the officials of the American Chemical Society, with a view to utilizing such of their abstracts as are of interest to the water works men. It is desired not only to avoid duplication of work in abstracting, but to utilize any work already being done in this line.

Your Committee on Abstracts feels that at the outset the publications examined regularly should be confined to the United States and Canada, although we see no objection to including abstracts of articles of special importance, from foreign journals, which may come to the attention of the abstractors, if it be clearly indicated in the Journal that such abstracting of foreign journals is at present the exception rather than the rule. Eventually, we should hope that the regular abstracting would include all important foreign publications, in addition to those in United States and Canada. We believe that a list of the periodicals abstracted, should appear in the first issue of the JOURNAL containing abstracts, and periodically thereafter.

We are of the opinion that the abstracting of American publications should be as complete as possible and that in cases where the

publication of abstracts is not warranted at the present time, references at least should be given so that we may have at the outset a complete bibliography of articles of interest to water works men.

We propose to start the abstracting with the publications issued subsequent to June 30, 1921, and to have the first of these in the hands of your Secretary before the 15th of September next, so that they may appear in the January issue of the JOURNAL. The list of publications for abstracting has been divided among the members of the Committee, each member being responsible for the abstracting of the periodicals assigned to him. We understand it is not expected that the members of the Committee on Abstracts will necessarily do any abstracting, but that they will determine the articles to be abstracted and delegate the abstracting not done by themselves, to the appropriate committee, under the jurisdiction of the Council, the abstracts so prepared to be sent directly to the secretary of the Council.

In order to facilitate the work of our Committee on Abstracts, we suggest that you send a copy of the report of your Council, which was adopted by the Association, to each of the committee chairmen, with a letter explaining in detail the duties of his committee and the function of the Committee on Abstracts.

We enclose the list of periodicals¹ to be examined for abstracts, as now assigned to the members of the Committee. This list is not yet complete and we shall be glad to add such publications as may be suggested by your Council and its various committees.

Respectfully yours,

A. L. FALES, *Chairman*

J. N. CHESTER,

F. C. JORDAN,

R. S. WESTON,

A. WOLMAN.

¹The list appears in Supplement to JOURNAL, September, 1921.